by way of equity participation through the Venture Capital Scheme of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium.

Purchasing of Khadi and Kulhad by Railways

†*188. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Khadi and *Kulhad* purchased by Railways, so far, after the announcement of the budget, 2004;

(b) whether Railways propose to serve meals in *thalis* and *donas* made of 'Saal' leaves on the pattern of Khadi and *Kulhad*; and

(c) if so, by when and the steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) So far 416.42 lakh *Kulhads* over Indian Railways have been purchased for Rupees 2 Crores (approx.) after the announcement of Budget 2004. The quantum of 'Khadi'/ Handloom, in terms of its value of purchase by Railways from April 2004 upto Feb. 2006, is to the tune of approximately by Rs. 54 Crores.

(b) There is no proposal to serve meals in 'thalis and donas' made of 'Saal' leaves on Indian Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

Rejection of Indian Chyavanprash by Singapore

†*189. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Singapore has returned Indian Chyavanprash considering it as dangerous;

(b) whether it is also a fact that prior to this incident, America has also returned Indian Ayurvedic medicines with similar allegation;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether, in order to check repetition of such negligence, Government would consider to set up an effective authority after dissolving the Central Medicinal Plant Board and;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Singapore has not returned Indian Chyavanprash. However the Health Science Authority of Singapore returned the following herbal medicines manufactured and imported from India on 14.12.2005:—

Product and Brand Name	**Manufacturer in India**
Annai Aravindh Herbals Rheuma-7 capsules	Annai Aravindh Herbals, India
Himalaya Diabecon Tablets	The Himalaya Drug Company, India
Laurel's Diabecs Capsules	Laurel Herbal Products, India
Goodcare Diabet Guard Granules	Goodcare Pharma Pvt. Ltd. India

(b) The New York City Health Department issued a health warning on December 21, 2005, regarding Jambrulin made by Unjha Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Lakshmivilas Ras made by Baidyanath and Maha Sudarshan made by Arya Aushadhi Pharmaceutical Works on the grounds that they contain very high levels of heavy metals.

(c) The Central Government has notified Good Manufacturing Practices under Schedule T of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, in respect of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs on 26th June, 2000. which has come into forces on 7th March, 2003. Central Government has on 13.10.2005 directed all the State Licensing authorities of Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs to ensure Good Manufacturing Practices compliance by all Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs manufacturing units and to take action against the defaulting Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drug manufacturers for revocation of their licenses for failure to comply with Good Manufacturing Practices. The Central Government has also issued another Order dated 10th October, 2005, under Section 33P of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, directing the State Licensing Authorities of Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs to

ensure full compliance by all ASU drug manufacturers of the provisions of Rule 161 (1) and (2) relating to displaying on the label of the container or a leaflet to be inserted inside it of an Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drug, the true list of all the ingredients used in the manufacture of the preparation along with the quantity of each of the ingredients incorporated therein. The Central Government has also issued an Order on October 14, 2005, Under Section 33EEB of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, providing for mandatory testing for heavy metals namely arsenic, lead mercury & cadmium in respect of every batch of purely herbal Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs to be exported from 1st January, 2006. However, there are certain Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs which contain as ingrediants heavy metals for therapeutical purposes for treatment of various ailments. The Central Government has sanctioned a project to Council for Scientific & Industrial Research for chemical analysis and safety analysis of eight most widely used herbo metallic compounds to collect scientific evidence regarding standardized operating procedures for making *Bhasmas* and establish their safety.

This project is aimed at providing scientific evidence in respect of the safety of herbo metallic Ayurveda medicines to address concerns associated with possible toxicity of *Bhasmas.*

(d) and (e) It is the responsibility of the State Licensing Authorities and the manufacturers to ensure compliance with all the provisions of Chapter IV-A of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the Rules made thereunder for regulating Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs. Pharmacopoeial Laboratories of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeial Laboratories are already functioning at Ghaziabad which are appellate laboratories for testing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani & Homeopathy medicines respectively. In addition, there are a significant number of NABL/ GLP accredited laboratories in the country which can be utilized by manufacturers of Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani drugs to get their medicines tested before export. The National Medicinal Plants Board was established for promoting cultivation of medicinal plants keeping in view the increasing demand for herbal medicines and the limited availability of herbs in the

forests. There is absolutely no reason for dissolving the National Medicinal Plants Board.

Conversion of Single Railway Lines into Double Railway Lines in Bihar

*190. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to covert single railway lines into double railway lines in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of single railway lines which have been converted into double railway line during 2005-2006?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) and (b) The work of doubling of single line patches on the following sections have been taken up. The details are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Section	Approx. Length in Km.	Cost (2005-06) (Rs. in Crore)	Anticipated throwforward as on 01.04.2006 (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Patna-Gaya	92	234.14	138.49
2.	Katihar-Barauni	180	274.25	228.76
3.	Chhapra-Hajipur	58.5	126.4	87.31
4.	Chhapra-Jiradei	72	140.64	129.64
5.	Kajra-Kiul	16	23.73	20.71

The doubling of Jiradei-Bhatni (38 kms.) section has been included in the Budget 2006-07. The status of the above mentioned projects is given in the statement (see below).

(c) During 2005-06, Mansi-Maheshkunt (10.5 Kms) and Barauni-Tilrath (9 kms) have been commissioned.